

THE MILITARY MONITOR,

AND

AMERICAN REGISTER.

"THE PUBLIC GOOD OUR END."

VOL. I.

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THE MILITARY MONITOR,

AND

AMERICAN REGISTER,

BY

T. O'CONNOR,

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NEW-YORK, 1812.

Official.

NAVAL REPORT.

CONCLUDED.

(A.)

STATEMENT

Showing the number and description of guns mounted on vessels of different classes, the weight of ball in a round of each, the weight of a broadside, the number of men required for each, the annual expense in actual service for each, the annual expense computed by the gun, by each man, by the weight of metal, and the relative power of each man in each description of vessel, computed in weight of metal.

Gun boat.	Rate of ships.
70 44 16	
4	Number of 68 pound carronades
30	Number of 42 pound long cannon on the lower gun-deck.
28 30	Number of 24 pound long cannon on the upper deck.
16	Number of 42 pound carronades on the quarter deck.

16 18	Number of 32 pound carronades on the main deck or quarter deck.
8	Number of 42 pound carronades on the fore-castle.
8	Number of 32 pound carronades on the fore-castle.
2	Number of 9 pound long cannon.
86 54 20 10	Whole number of carriage guns.
43 27 10	Number of guns in a broadside.
3176 1488 594 21	Weight of ball in a round.
1588 744 297	Weight of ball in a broadside.
650 420 130 36	Number of men.
Dolls. 202,110 110,000 50,202 12,500	Whole annual expense in actual service.
Dolls. 2,350 2,037 2,520 12,500	Annual expense per gun.
Dolls. Cts. 310 9 261 80 463 347	Annual expense per man.
Dolls. Cts. 63 63 73 92 84 51 520 83	Annual expense per each round of metal.
lb. oz. 4 14 3 8 4 8 10 1-2	Power of each computed in weight of metal.

B.

Estimate of the expense of building and equipping a 74 gun ship of 1620 tons, prepared some years since by Joshua Humphreys, esq. of Philadelphia, a shipwright of great respectability and professional talents.

Live oak timber,	\$40,000
White oak and pine ditto,	30,000
Labor,	85,100
Cables, rigging, &c.	32,400
Smith's work,	30,400
Anchors, marling,	8,700
Sailmaker's bills, two suits, including canvas,	16,200
Joiner's bill, including stuff,	7,800
Carver's bill,	1,620
Tanner's ditto,	700
Rigger's do.	2,240
Painter's do.	3,240
Cooper's do.	4,860
Blockmaker's do.	3,210
Boatbuilder's do.	1,620
Plumber's do.	2,430
Ship Chandlery,	9,720
Turner's bill,	1,215
Copper bolts,	10,980
Sheathing copper, nails, &c.	17,440
Woollens for sheathing,	1,215
Contingencies,	311,100
	31,600
	\$342,700

Notes by an experienced gentleman.

"Labor." This item was calculated at a time when ship carpenter's wages were \$2 50 per day; they can now be obtained at \$2.

"Cables and rigging." When the above estimate was made the price was \$16; they can now be obtained at \$15.

"Carver's bill." Expensive carving on the head and stern is abolished; 1000 dolls. may be deducted from this item.

"Rigger's bill." We employ seamen at 12 dollars per month; this item may be considerably reduced.

"Painter's bill." The practice of painting our ships of war differs so much from that first

adopted, both in point of labor and colors, that one third of this item may be safely deducted.

"*Woollen for sheathing.*" Now exploded; experience having established the fact that it occasions an absorption and retention of salt water, which corrodes the inside copper, &c. no could the copper be laid on so smooth as without it.

"*Contingencies.*" At the time the above estimate was made, we had no yards, of course wharfage or rent of yards was then included, and we do not now, as then, give such quantities of rum to laborers; this item may be reduced one half.

C.

Estimate of the expense of building and equipping a 76 gun ship, formed from the actual expense of building and equipping the frigate President.

The President of 1444 tons, cost	\$220,910
Say per ton 153 dollars, a 76 would ton 1620.	
1620 tons, at 153 dolls.	247,860
Add for additional guns and gun carriages,	18,599
Additional cubic feet of timber in the frame, about 4,000 feet, at \$1 25,	5,000
For additional weight of rigging, anchors and other materials, add 10 per cent. on the cost of the tonnage, 247,860 dollars, at 10 per cent.	24,786
	\$296,245
Say \$300,000	

D.

United States frigate Constellation,
Nov. 12, 1812.

Sir—I have received your letter of the 14th inst. in which you state "the desire of the Naval Committee to possess the most comprehensive information upon naval subjects, particularly the description of marine force best adapted to our defence, and the relative efficiency of vessels of different rates." In compliance herewith, I have the honor to answer the questions you propound, as follows:

Question 1. What in your opinion is the relative efficiency of ships of the line, say 74's, and large frigates?

Answer. The relative efficiency or force of a 74 gun ship and large frigate, is as one to three.

COMPARATIVE FORCE.

Frigate of 50 guns.

Gun deck,	30	24-pounders.
Quarter deck,	14	32lb. carronades.
Forecastle,	6	32lb. do.
Guns	50	1360lbs. shot each round.
Men	430	
480 guns and men.		

Ship of the line, 74 guns.

Lower gun-deck,	28	42-pounders.
Upper do.	30	24 do.
Quarter deck,	16	42 do. carronades
Forecastle,	8	42 do. do.
Do.	2	24 pounders.
Poop,	4	68 do. do.
Guns	88	
Men	650	

738 guns and men.

Argument. By the above comparison it appears, that a 74 gun ship discharges at one round 3224lbs. of shot; and a frigate of the first class 1360lbs.; it therefore clearly proves the position or relative force in point of metal, to be 1 to 3, or thereabouts. When this circumstance is considered jointly with the following, it must appear to others as it does to me, that as you increase the class of the ship, you increase the force in proportion of one to three, and diminish proportionally the expense of building, equipping, and supporting them in commission, which may easily be established by estimates from the department, and the experience of all other maritime nations.

Ships of the line are much stronger in scantling, thicker in the sides and bottom, less penetrable to the shot, and consequently less liable to be torn or battered to pieces, or sunk: the additional room being more than in proportion to the additional number of men, leave greater space for water and provisions, and admits of her wings being kept clear, that shot penetrating below the water, the holes can readily be plugged up from the inside, and her sinking thereby prevented; hence we have seen ships of the line capable of battering one another for several hours, and if not too much crippled in the spars and rigging, enabled to renew an action on following days. I am aware that some are of opinion, that a more divided force is better calculated for action, from the advantageous position that would be given to a part: Suppose three frigates of 50 guns were to undertake to batter a 74 gun ship, and that two of these were to occupy the quarter and stern of the 74, (this is placing them in the most favorable position) the other frigate engaged abreast, every thing would then depend on the time the frigate abreast could maintain that position to enable the other two to act with effect on the stern quarter. But it must appear evident to all acquainted with the two classes of ships, that the frigate abreast could not withstand the fire of so heavy and compact a battery many minutes; and in all probability would be dismasted or sunk the first or second broadside. This would decide the fate of the other two. Much might be said upon the superiority of ships of the line over frigates in the attack of batteries or their defence; on the security of valuable convoys of merchant ships, or troops sent on an expedition; but their advantage in these respects, must be apparent to all, however unacquainted with nautical affairs.

Question 2. What, in your opinion, is the relative efficiency or force of large frigates and sloops of war?

Answer. The relative efficiency of large frigates and sloops of war is at least one to two.

COMPARATIVE FORCE.

Sloop of war.

Gun deck	16	12 pounders
Quarter deck	8	24 do. carronades
Forecastle	4	24 do.
Guns	28	480 lbs. shot
Men	180	

208 guns and men.

Frigate.

Gun deck	30	24 pounders
Quarter deck	14	32 do. carronades
Forecastle	6	32 do. do.
Guns	50	1360 lbs. shot
Men	430	

480 guns and men.

Question 3. What description of naval force do you think best adapted to the defence of our coast and commerce?

Answer. Ships of the line are best calculated for the defence of our coast, and for the protection of our inward and outward commerce when engaged in war with a foreign maritime power.

Argument. It cannot be supposed, in a war with a foreign maritime power, that that power will only send to our coasts frigates and smaller cruisers, because we possess no other description of vessels. Their first object will be to restrain by ships of the line, our frigates and other cruisers from departing and preying upon their commerce; their next object will be to send their smaller cruisers in pursuit of our commerce, and by having their ships of the line parading on our coast, threatening our more exposed seaport towns, and preventing the departure of our small cruisers, they will be capturing what commerce may have escaped theirs, and recapturing what prizes may have fallen into our hands. Thirdly, they can at any time withdraw their ships of the line, should a more important object require it, without hazarding much on their part, and return in sufficient time to shut out our cruisers that may have departed during their absence. Fourthly, they can at all times consult their convenience in point of time and numbers; and will incur no expense and risk of transports, for provisions and water; but can go and procure their supplies at pleasure and return to their stations ere their absence is known to us.

Question. What description of force do you think best calculated to prosecute the present war, and any future war in which we may be engaged?

Answer. For the prosecution of the present war with the most effect, a mixt naval force of the following description, is in my opinion the best calculated.

Ships of the line to rate, in honor of the year of our Independence, Seventy-Sixers, to mount as follows:

28 42 pounders on the lower gun deck
30 24 " " on the upper do.
24 42 lb. carronades on quarter deck and fore-
castle
2 24 pounders on forecastle
4 68 pound carronades on poop.

88 guns.

Frigates to rate 40 guns to mount as follows :

30 24 pounders on gun deck
20 32 lb. carronades on quarter deck and
forecastle.

50 guns

Frigates to rate 32 guns to mount as follows :

26 18 pounders on gun deck
10 24 lb. carronades on quarter deck and fore-
castle

42 guns.

*Corvette ships to rate 16 guns to mount as
follows :*

18 32 pound carronades
2 12 pounders

20 guns.

Argument. By having a proportion of these classes of ships of war, the inner squadron, or *guarda costa*, may be composed of the ships of the line, and a few of the 32 gun ships, for repeaters and *look out ships*. Hence it would produce one of two results, either that the enemy would be obliged to abandon our coast, or bring on it a much greater force, at least double our number, out of which they will be obliged to keep on our coast a superiority at all the hazards of the sea; and, at great additional expense and risk of transports, to provision and water them. But should they, from other circumstances, be unable to keep up this superiority on our coast, the door will be kept open for the ingress and egress of our cruisers and their prizes, while our other classes of ships may be sent in pursuit of their smaller cruisers and commerce. These observations will apply to all future wars in which we may be engaged with the maritime powers; but as we might more frequently be engaged with the Barbary powers, the frigates and 16 gun ships would be better adapted to that species of warfare. They have no ships of the line. The ships of the line could then be laid up in ordinary, dismantled and preserved at a small expense.

Question 5. Would not the erection of docks for the repairs of our vessels, produce a great saving in expense, labor and risk; and would not docks greatly expedite the refitting of our ships?

Answer. A dry dock agreeable to a plan I furnished the Department some time since, to be freed from water by pumps or drains, will be indispensable for the repair of ships of war, and will be the least expensive way of repairing the bottoms of our ships, and will expedite the outfit in point of time one to ten.

Argument. A ship of war wanting repairs to her bottom or coppering, must be turned down on one side at a time to undergo that repair; therefore to prepare a ship for that pro-

cess, requires that her upper masts should be taken down, and all her guns, stores, water casks, ballast, ammunition, &c. should be taken out—which leads to great loss, waste and labor: and the time occupied in the process will be from two to three weeks, and as much more time will be required to re-rig, re-equip and re-place her guns, stores and other materials. The preparations to dock a ship of war can be done in twelve hours. All that is necessary to be done, is to take out the guns, and pump the water out of the water casks, and when in dock, the repairs of her bottom can progress on both sides at the same time. Should a ship of war want a thorough repair throughout, it can never be effectually done but in a dock; for instance, in repairing ships of war in the water, they are liable to have the fine form of their bottom spoiled, by hogging, spreading or warping, which will materially affect their sailing. Ships wanting thorough repairs, require all the plank stripped off inside and outside, their beams, knees and clamps taken out; these are all they have to bind their frames together, and thereby preserve their shape; but when stripped of them to make room for new, they are liable to hog, from the greatest weight and body of timber being in the fore and after end, at which places there is no pressure upwards caused by the water; as those ends are sharp, the two extremes of the ship are liable to sink in the water, while the body or middle of the ship rises with the upwards pressure of the water. The next consideration in repairing the bottoms in the water, though not of so vital importance, is not unworthy of serious attention; the bolting in the bottom ought to be driven from the outside; but when repaired afloat, they are under the necessity of driving them from the inside; hence the bottom will not be so strong, nor so well secured.

The time for answering the several questions propounded to me in your letter of the 4th inst. being very short, and a great deal being required by my other avocations, will, I trust, be a sufficient apology for my not going more largely and minutely into the subject, as also for any inaccuracies which I may have committed. I will therefore close this communication with an expression of my hopes that, whatever may be proposed by the naval committee to congress on this subject, they will strongly recommend to their consideration the necessity of having what they propose for the increase of the navy, of the best seasoned materials, which will be by far the cheapest, and be longer in a state for active service. I trust their past experience will prove to their satisfaction this position, that the best materials are always the cheapest, and that a slow increase is better than a hasty and temporary one.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, sir,
your obedient servant,

CHAS. STEWART.

Ton. Paul Hamilton.

We agree with Captain Stewart in the within statement, in all its parts.

ISAAC HULL.
C. MORRIS.

Statement showing the proportions of able seamen, ordinary seamen and boys, required for a ship of the line, say a 76, and a 44 gun frigate.

	Able Seamen.	O. Seamen and boys.
A 76 requires	280	233
44	140	172

NOTE. 210 able seamen is considered by practical men as too great a portion for a first rate 76. The whole number of able and ordinary seamen and boys is 513; and practical men say that they may be classed thus; able seamen 220, ordinary seamen, &c. 293. It is observed by those acquainted with ships of the line, that to manage their sails does not require more able seamen than are required to manage the sails of a large frigate.

A force in frigates equal to a 76 would then require 420 able seamen; a 76 would require 220, making a difference in this respect of 200 able seamen in favor of the 76.

In 1798 and 1799 no difficulty was experienced in procuring able seamen; we could frequently in one week man a frigate. One among other considerations which induced able seamen to enter then with so much alacrity, was, because the enemy we were then contending with had not afloat (with very few exceptions) vessels superior in rate to frigates. The enemy we are now fighting have *ships of the line*; and our sailors know the great difference between that class of vessels and frigates, and cannot but feel a degree of reluctance at entering the service from the evident disparity. Build ships of the line, and you will man them with more ease than you now can a sloop of war.

In 1798, 9, and 1800, we had near 4000 able seamen in the navy, a number sufficient to man eighteen ships of the line.

Ordinary seamen can always be procured in abundance.

IMPRESSED SEAMEN.

The following Message was received from the President of the United States:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

I transmit, for the information of Congress, copies of a correspondence between John Mitchell, Agent for American prisoners of war at Halifax, and the British Admiral commanding at that station.

I transmit for the like purpose, copies of a letter from Commodore Rodgers to the Secretary of the Navy.

JAMES MADISON.

January 22, 1813.

Extract of a letter from John Mitchell, Esq. Agent for American prisoners of war at Halifax, to the Secretary of State, dated

5th December, 1812.

"I cover you a copy of a correspondence, which took place in consequence of different applications I received, either by letter or personally, from persons detained on board his Britannic Majesty's ships of war in this place.

"I formerly mentioned to you, that the Admiral had assured me, that he would discharge all the citizens of the United States who were in the fleet, and actually did discharge several. This induced me to think I should be correct, and in the perfect line of my duty, in sending him a list of the appli-

cants to me, and requesting an enquiry to be made, and discharges granted to all who were citizens of the United States; I, therefore, covered him a list of the names now enclosed to you, which produced his letter to me of the same date (1st Dec. 1812.)

"I read it with surprise, because some of the men had informed me their captains had refused to report them to the Admiral. Now, if no one here was or is allowed to do it, their situation is hopeless.

"It is not my place, Sir, to reason with you on this business. *Proof of nativity*, in his first letter, is a strong expression: and how few are in possession of it, and how many who cannot obtain it.

"The second paragraph, in the second letter, prevents my interfering; and I have since been obliged to send a man away, requesting him to apply to his commanding officer."

Copy of a letter from John Mitchell, Esq. Agent for American prisoners of war at Halifax, to Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, dated

1st December, 1812.

Sir—Since the sailings of the last cartels, in which you were pleased to send home several Americans, who had been in his Britannic Majesty's service, others who are now on board of the Centurion and Statira, have requested of me to procure their discharge and to be sent home.

Will you, Sir, have the goodness to direct an inquiry, and order the release of such as are citizens of the United States?

Besides the enclosed list, I am told there are others, whose names I have not.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN MITCHELL,
Agent, &c. &c.

Copy of a letter from Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, to John Mitchell, Esq. Agent for American prisoners of war at Halifax, dated

December 1st, 1812.

Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, respecting some men, therein mentioned, on board his Majesty's ships under my command, said to be citizens of the United States, and in reply, beg to acquaint you, that whenever I have received representations from the captains of his Majesty's ships of any part of their crews being citizens of America, with sufficient proof of their nativity, I have directed their discharge from the service.

I must observe to you, that I cannot permit the interference of any applications from men belonging to his Majesty's ships, but through their commanding officers; and in your department, of prisoners of war only, I shall at all times be most happy to receive your communications.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN BORLASE WARREN.

Copy of a letter from John Mitchell, Esq. Agent for American prisoners of war at Halifax, to Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, dated

3d December, 1812.

Sir—I had yesterday the honor to receive your letter, dated the 1st inst. and observed that you cannot permit the interference of any application from men on board of his Majesty's ships of war, but through their commanding officers.

Desirous of conforming, as far as possible, to established regulations, permit me the honor to enquire of your Excellency, if by your letter I am to understand that I am not to receive the applications of seamen declaring themselves citizens of the United States, who are on board of his Majesty's ships of war, and communicate the same to you? If this is the meaning, I shall most certainly conform, though I must lament the regulation.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN MITCHELL,
Agent, &c. &c.

Copy of a letter from Admiral Sir John Borlase Warren, to John Mitchell, Esq. Agent for American prisoners of war at Halifax, dated

4th December, 1812.

Sir—In reply to your letter, dated yesterday, I have to acquaint you, that whenever any address is made relative to men on board his Majesty's ships it must be by the commanders of such vessels direct. I cannot permit any application by other person in time of war, but in the above mode.

It will always afford me pleasure to attend to your wishes in any respect relative to the situation or exchange of prisoners, or to afford any aid or relief in my power.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) JOHN BORLASE WARREN.

From Commodore Rodgers to the Secretary of the Navy.

U. S. FRIGATE PRESIDENT,

Boston, Jan. 14, 1813.

Sir—Herewith you will receive two muster books, of his Britannic Majesty's vessels Moselle and Sappho, found on board the British Packet Swallow.

As the British have always denied that they detained on board their ships of war American citizens, knowing them to be such, I send you the enclosed, as a public document of their own, to prove how illy such an assertion accords with their practice.

It will appear by these two muster books, that so late as August last, about an eighth part of the Moselle and Sappho's crews were Americans: consequently, if there is only a quarter part of that proportion on board their other vessels, they have an infinitely greater number of Americans in their service than any American has yet had an idea of.

Any further comment of mine on this subject, I consider unnecessary; as the enclosed documents speak but too plainly for themselves.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) JOHN RODGERS.

The Hon. Paul Hamilton, Sec'y. of the Navy.

The message and documents were read and referred to the committee of foreign relations.

RECRUITING INSTRUCTIONS.

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington City, 15th Jan. 1813.

The following recruiting districts are established within the United States and the territories thereof, viz:—

The district of Maine will form one recruiting district, the principal rendezvous of which will be at Portland.

The state of New-Hampshire, one district, principal rendezvous Concord.

Vermont, one district, principal rendezvous Burlington.

Massachusetts and Rhode-Island, two districts; the first to include Rhode-Island and that part of Massachusetts lying east of Worcester; principal rendezvous Boston.

The second to include all Massachusetts west of Worcester, the principal rendezvous of which will be at Pittsfield.

Connecticut, one district, principal rendezvous Hartford.

New-York, three districts; the first to include that part of the state lying south of Poughkeepsie, principal rendezvous New-York.

The second to include all north of Poughkeepsie and east of Utica, principal rendezvous Albany.

The third to include the remaining part of the state, principal rendezvous Canandaigua.

New-Jersey, one district, principal rendezvous Elizabeth-Town.

Pennsylvania, two districts; the first to include that part of the state east of the Alleghany mountain, principal rendezvous Philadelphia.

The second to include all west of the Alleghany mountain, principal rendezvous Pittsburgh.

Delaware, one district, principal rendezvous Wilmington.

Maryland and the District of Columbia, one district, principal rendezvous Baltimore.

Virginia, two districts, the first to include that part of the state lying east of the Blue Ridge, principal rendezvous Leesburgh.

The second to include all west of the Blue Ridge, principal rendezvous Winchester.

North Carolina, one district, principal rendezvous Salisbury.

South Carolina, one district, principal rendezvous Columbia.

Georgia, one district, principal rendezvous Bath.

Tennessee and Missouri territory, two districts; the first to include all East Tennessee, principal rendezvous Knoxville.

The second to include all West Tennessee and the Missouri territory, principal rendezvous Nashville.

Kentucky, one district, principal rendezvous Newport.

Ohio, one district, principal rendezvous Chillicothe.

Illinois and Indiana territories, one district, principal rendezvous Vincennes, In. T.

State of Louisiana and the Mississippi territory, one district, principal rendezvous Washington, M. T.

Each district will be placed under the superintendence of a field officer, who will have deposited at the principal rendezvous a sufficient quantity of clothing, arms, accoutrements, ammunition, camp equipage and medicine, for all the men to be recruited within the district. He will be furnished with money for bounties and premiums by the paymaster of the army, and for contingent service by the War Department, and will employ every captain and subaltern within the district (not on other duty by order of a superior officer) on the recruiting service for the regiment to which such captains and subalterns may belong; and will supply them with money, clothing, &c. for this purpose, taking their duplicate receipts, holding them accountable to the Accountant of the Department of War; and he will transmit to the said Department a statement of his accounts weekly, showing the amount of money, clothing, &c. received and distributed, and the balance remaining on hand. He will be held strictly responsible for the good conduct, order and discipline of the corps within his district, and will transmit weekly returns to this office, showing the number, rank, regiment and station of every officer employed by him on the recruiting service, the strength of their parties, and the alterations since last return; and he will use every possible exertion to promote the said service, by visiting the different rendezvous within his district, and by directing his recruiting officers to places where they are known, or such as promise most success. He will be furnished with a copy of the contract for the territory included in his district, and will give due notice to the contractor of his agent, for supplying his parties with provisions at such places within the district as he may deem necessary. And that there may be no unnecessary delay in paying the recruits, agreeably to law, he will transmit regular sets of muster rolls of all the officers and men in his district, to the district paymaster, who will be instructed to make the regular payments by the paymaster of the army. Recruiting officers will receive money, clothing, &c. for their recruits, from the commanding officer of the district, for which they will give the proper duplicate receipts, and be held accountable. The

VERMONT.

Colonel Isaac Clark, Burlington.

MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE-ISLAND.

Lieut. Col. John I. Tuttle, Boston.

Colonel Simeon Larned, Pittsfield.

CONNECTICUT.

Major Joseph L. Smith, Hartford.

NEW-YORK.

Colonel Alexander Macomb, New-York.

Colonel Peter P. Schuyler, Albany.

Lieut. Col. Robt. Le Roy Livingston, Canandaigua.

NEW-JERSEY.

Lieut. Col. David Brearly, Elizabeth-Town.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Colonel George Izard, Philadelphia.

Colonel Hugh Brady, Pittsburgh.

DELAWARE.

Major Robert Carr, Wilmington.

MARYLAND.

Major Timothy Dix, Baltimore.

VIRGINIA.

Major David Campbell, Leesburgh.

Colonel Thomas Parker, Winchester.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Colonel James Wellborn, Salisbury.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Lieut. Col. Andrew Pickens, Columbia.

GEORGIA.

Colonel Patrick Jack, Bath.

TENNESSEE AND MISSOURI TERRITORIES.

Lieut. Col. George W. Sevier, Knoxville.

Colonel William P. Anderson, Nashville.

KENTUCKY.

Lieut. Col. William McMillan, Newport.

OHIO.

Colonel John Miller, Chillicothe.

ILLINOIS AND INDIANA TERRITORIES.

Major Zachariah Taylor, Vincennes, (Ind. Ter.)

LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI TERRITORIES.

Major Matthew Arbuckle, Washington, (Mis. Ter.)

By order of the Secretary of War.

THOMAS H. CUSHING,
Adjutant General.

CASE OF CLARK THE SPY.

Transcript of the sentence and subsequent proceedings in the case of Elijah Clark, who was convicted as a Spy, at a General Court Martial, holden at the court-house, in the village of Buffalo, on Wednesday the 5th day of August, 1812, and continued by adjournment, from day to day, until Saturday the 8th day of August in the same year—whereof

Lt. Col. Philetus Swift, was President,

Majors George Smith,

Parmenio Adams,

Capts. Joseph McClure,

Samuel Jennings,

Samuel Terry,

Daniel Curtiss,

Ehas Hall,

Licuts. Joel B. Clark,

Levi Moores, and

James M'Nair,

and Major George Hosmer, was Judge Advocate.

SENTENCE.

The court having heard all the evidence and the prisoner's defence, and very maturely and thoroughly considered the same, gave the following opinion:

The charge specified, is as follows—"That the said Elijah Clark is a spy within the meaning and according to the rules and articles of war, and the laws of the United States."

1st. It appears that Elijah Clark the prisoner, was born in the state of New-Jersey, and that he continued to reside in the U. States as a citizen thereof until within about 18 months last past, when he removed to Canada, and there married, that his wife and property are yet in Canada and within the dominion and allegiance of the King of the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Ireland. For these reasons the court are of opinion, that (altho' the said Elijah Clark is a native born citizen of the U. States, and is yet holden under that allegiance, which as such citizen he owes to the U. States) he is nevertheless liable to be tried and convicted as a spy in the United States, for his acts of a spy committed during the continuance of such temporary allegiance to the King of the United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Ireland, with whom the U. States are at war.

2d. The court are of opinion, under the testimony before them, that the prisoner did cross from the Canada shore to the U. States, and did linger about the encampments and army of the U. States, for the purpose of spying out our state and condition, and of reporting the same to our enemies; and for these reasons the court are of opinion, that the said Elijah Clark is guilty of the crime whereof he stands charged; and falls under the 101 article of the act, entitled, "an act for establishing rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States," passed the 10th day of April, 1806.

And they do adjudge and sentence the said Elijah Clark to be continued in the present place of confinement until the first Friday in September next, and that he be at the hour of two o'clock in the afternoon of that day, taken from his said place of confinement, and hung by the neck until he be dead.

PHILETUS SWIFT.

President.

GEO. HOSMER, Judge Advocate.

Head Quarters, Manchester, }
Niagara Frontier, Aug 13. }

GENERAL ORDERS.

Maj. Gen. Hall, having doubts how far the prisoner (*Elijah Clark*) within named, comes within the description of a spy, by reason that he is within the letter of the 2d section of the 101 article of the act, entitled, "an act for establishing rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States," which excepts throughout "all persons not citizens of, or owing allegiance to the United States of America, is pleased to order, and doth hereby order a suspension of the execution of the within sentence until

will transmit to him a statement of their accounts weekly, showing the amount of money, clothing, &c. received and distributed, and the balance remaining on hand; a duplicate of which they will transmit to the War Department. They will be held responsible for the good conduct of their recruits, and will transmit correct returns weekly to the commanding officer of the district, and to this office.

The commissary general of purchases will cause to be deposited, at the principal rendezvous in each district, subject to the orders of the field officer, a sufficient quantity of clothing, arms, accoutrements, ammunition, camp equipage and medicine, for the number of men to be recruited therein; and that there shall at no time be a deficiency of any of these articles, the field officer will give due notice to the commissary general of the articles received, delivered, and on hand, and at what time a further supply will be necessary.

When a recruiting officer shall send a party of recruits to the principal rendezvous, he will transmit to the commanding officer an exact statement of each man's account, as respects clothing, subsistence, bounty and pay; and a like statement must accompany every man sent to the regiment, to be entered in the books of the company for which he enlisted.

Recruits are to be free from sore legs, scurvy, swollen head, ruptures, and other infirmities. The age is to be conformable to law, but healthy active boys, between 14 and 18 years of age, may be enlisted for musicians. In all cases where minors or apprentices are enlisted, the consent in writing of the parent, guardian or master, if any such there be, is to be obtained, and accompany the enlistment.

No objection is to be made to a recruit for want of size, provided he is strong, active, well made and healthy.

As soon as convenient, and within six days at farthest from the time of his enlistment, every recruit shall be brought before a magistrate, and take and subscribe the oath required by law, according to the form prescribed.

When a recruit is rejected, his clothing, if delivered, and the bounty advanced to him, shall be returned, for which the recruiting officer will be held accountable.

If any recruit, after having received the bounty, or a part of it, shall abscond, he is to be pursued and punished as a deserter.

Every officer engaged in the recruiting service, will procure the necessary transportation, forage, fuel, straw and stationary, taking care to have his accounts therefor supported by proper vouchers.

Recruiting officers, having no enlisted musicians, are authorized to engage a drummer and fifer, at a sum not exceeding fifteen dollars per month, and one ration per day each.

By order of the Secretary of War.

THOMAS H. CUSHING,

Adjutant General.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington City, Jan. 15, 1813.

The following officers are appointed to superintend the recruiting districts described in the preceding "Instructions;" and the captains and subalterns recruiting or residing in each district, (and not on other duty) will immediately report themselves to the superintending officer, and receive and obey his orders—viz:

DISTRICT OF MAINE.

Major Timothy Upham, Portland.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Lieut. Col. John Darrington, Concord.

the pleasure of the President of the U. States can be known thereon.

By order of the Major General.

GEO. HOSMER, A. D. C.

OPINION OF THE PRESIDENT.

War Department, Oct. 20, 1812.

SIR,

The proceedings and sentence of the General Court Martial, which was had in the case of Elijah Clark, conformable to your orders of the 1st of August last, and which were by you transmitted to this Department, have been received and laid before the President. I have now the honor to inform you, that the said Clark being considered a citizen of the U. S. & not liable to be tried by a court martial as a spy, the President is pleased to direct, that unless he should be arraigned by the civil court for treason or a minor crime under the laws of the state of New-York, he must be discharged.

Very respectfully,

I have the honor to be,

Sir, your ob't servant,

W. EUSTIS.

Major Gen. A. Hull, Niagara.

GENERAL ORDERS,

Consequent on the Opinion of the President.

The pleasure of his Excellency the President of the United States of America, in relation to the case of *Elijah Clark*, who was tried and convicted of being a spy, under and by virtue of general orders of August last, having this day been made known to the Major General, through the Hon. Secretary at War—Therefore, in conformity to the directions of his Excellency the President, it is hereby ordered, "that the said Clark "being considered a citizen of the U. States, "and not liable to be tried by a court martial "as a spy, therefore, unless he should be arraigned by the civil courts for *treason* or some "minor crime under the laws of New-York, he "must be discharged."

All officers and military authorities whatever, in whose custody the said Clark shall or may happen to be, for the cause aforesaid, are hereby directed to release him from the said arrest as a spy.

Lt. Col. Philetus Swift is particularly charged with the execution of this order.

By order of Major Gen. Hull.

GEO. HOSMER, A. D. C.

Bloomfield, Dec: 2, 1812.

FOR THE MILITARY MONITOR.

ON THE COUP D'ŒIL.

So many excellent authors and experienced leaders have written on the subject of the coup d'œil, that rules for its acquirement cannot be expected in this place.

Plutarch and other ancient writers, describe Philopomene as having disregarded closet meditations, and those delineations of prospect which others attended to. His method was a nice observance of the original objects they described, and thus he improved his art in his daily journeys; contemplating the plain, the mountain, the hill, the vale, the wood and the stream, as if hostile bodies actually attacked and defended the various positions they presented to his view; at one and the same time he exercised his eye and his judgment, both as assailant and defender.

No doubt his method was greatly preferable to the mere study of plans on paper, to which, perhaps, too much attention is usually given, but which, nevertheless, is absolutely necessary in the present advanced state of military science; however, it should always be closely combined with the practice of one of the first warriors of antiquity, whom the Romans called the last of the Greeks, and whose greatness has been justly celebrated by historians.

Is the coup d'œil a peculiar gift of nature? We readily admit, one man's sight is, naturally, keener than another man's; and can we doubt a partial dispensation of the coup d'œil? They are truly fortunate who thus possess it, but they are eminently meritorious who acquire it by persevering observation, in despite of nature.

I know some old officers who, when entering a room, notice (as if instinctively) its angles, and even the minute arrangement of its furniture; in a numerous assembly they nearly guess, at a glance, the number of persons, in the same way they conjecture the total of rank and file in a battalion; and in travelling, by land or water, they remark every appearance of ground. Such have told me, they do not thus regard different objects from premeditated design, but from early habit and long service. Now, if we suppose those officers do not actually possess the natural coup d'œil, we must acknowledge they have a degree of the acquired; for this constant attention must greatly improve the sight, and if the result of such continued and apt observance be useful, (*as it must be if its objects become the theatre of military manoeuvre in war*) the coup d'œil is attainable.

It may often be noticed, that this class of military men procure their information in detail, and by thus strictly attending to the minutiae of their profession, acquire a certain uniformity of action, which frequently distinguishes them from the fa-

vorites of genius; they observe a correctness in their various and progressive duties, and their commendable strictness extends even to their domestic arrangements and economy. You seldom find them deficient in the conciliating courtesies of dignified politeness; and, being actuated by fixed principles and unwearied industry, they are in many respects the most faithful and the most useful servants of their government. Individuals of this description sometimes possess the natural coup d'œil, though, in general, they have more of the acquired talent: diffident of their first essay in arms, they gain confidence by mature experience, until they attain to considerable penetration and skill in warfare; eventually, however, they do not reach that pinnacle of glory which encompasses the brow of the hero (possessing the native commanding glance we speak of) with the laurel of victory.

Paulus Emelius, after his triumph over Philip of Macedon, observed to this effect—that a degree of the same skill was requisite in arranging an entertainment, as in forming an army in battle. Shall we place this distinguished general on the list with those who possess that required aptitude for correct system in public and in private life, but who are not the children of genius? The question may be thought insignificant, and my superiors must solve it, if they can; but with regard to genius, that partial parent of renown, she has so frequently been designated by capricious starts, that our very prejudices induce us to conclude she must still be so recognised. We would rather suppose the hair-brained king of Sweden to have been the object of her smile, than his polished cotemporary, the victor of Hochstadt.

Officers, however, in commanding stations, frequently err on the other side; they point at the smart youth who shows on a parade, wears his hat with an air, and, by year's practice, drills a detachment in a few movements, as the matadore of the game; while the favorite of genius, unserved in the crowd, and having no predilection for "nodding plumes," tight garters, and the occupation of a martinet, whiles away his time in solitude, or still worse, degrades his morals in the society of libertines—Years may be thus passed in peaceful times; when at length the trumpet of fame awakens his mind to energetic exertions, and he rises superior to the narrow hopes of his companions, who, jealous of his true character, attribute his brilliant fame to the chance of war.

This is not to intimate, such men are to be

found in every garrison, nor to encourage the slightest disregard of the *least detail of service*; for, if the youth of genius thus blaze forth at the moment of action, how superior would be the display if it had been preceded by a solid foundation in mathematical and philosophical studies, the science of the engineer and the artillerist, the requirement of the learned and modern languages, geography and drawing, due attention to the mechanical branches of his profession, and the improvement of the coup d'œil? Negligence in a soldier is criminal, and alacrity is always praiseworthy, however inefficient through want of capacity; but in this conviction, I would certainly recommend to commanders the propriety of seeking for talents, rather than to wait their forthcoming. Intrinsic merit is seldom obtrusive, and frequently falls into despondency, and, indeed, total inactivity, through keen sensibility of feeling: by a little patient observation, a gem may be found where mere rubbish was expected—on the other hand, genius is sometimes strangely marked by confidence and versatility; and if we consider the eccentric career of some of the greatest men of antiquity and of modern ages, the fact will be readily admitted. Did not Julius Cæsar saunter about the streets of Rome, dressed as a spendthrift and a debauchee, at an age when Alexander had gained the applause of nations? Did not Mark Anthony, amidst his mad career of venal lewdness and bacchanalian revels, crowd his intellectual faculties, when more youthful cotemporaries had gained honors in the field of conquest? We know, indeed, that Cæsar embraced the beauties of science with as great eagerness as he sought after the most licentious pleasures: we know that Anthony, (at a time when virtuous men regarded his profligacy with indignation) by the powers of oratory, roused the feelings of the Romans over the mantle of his friend. But does not this prove the uncertainty of greatness? So we know that Bolingbroke, immediately after he had run through a career as dark naked, like a lunatic, did not dive into the labyrinth of metaphysical research. Did not the great compeer of Pitt squander away thousands at the gaming table, and sow the seed of destructive disease, at the very time when his eloquence, graced by the muses, strengthened by solid learning, and nerved by the fire of independence, charmed the attention of the listening commons? Did not this astonishing man's presence at Paris excite emotion in the mind of Ma-

rengo's victor, whom armies could not appal? Does not this same conqueror evince every day in his actions inconsistencies of caprice, which would render a common man, under any circumstances, ridiculous? Rapidity of thought is generally accompanied by rapidity of vision, and thus forming, in fact, what is termed a genius for war, is too often, like a genius for any other pursuit, evinced by starts, unless the seed of glory be early implanted in the bosom of the possessor; then, perhaps, he will endeavor to give consistency to his actions—but, do what he will, they will be still eccentric, however steadily pursued. If this genius be early regulated by good masters and study (as was Bonaparte's) then indeed the heat may be tempered, until ambition inflames the ardor of the soul, and it spurns at the power of common rule, and lives or dies greatly.

With regard to the coup d'œil, I shall say no more at present; but request the reader's attention to the following observations of a writer, who has lately given a book to the public intrinsically valuable to every officer, but particularly so to new generals ignorant of the general study of military science.

"OF THE COUP D'ŒIL."

"This is the faculty of seeing things at a single glance. It is therefore but another name for the combined effect of a prompt and correct judgment on the various incidents which occur in the course of a campaign, and without which you are not likely to profit as you ought, either by local incidents or by the faults of your enemy; while, on the other hand, you are continually exposed to the commission of blunders the most ridiculous and ruinous. As this is a faculty partly natural, and partly artificial, it would be well that our young generals should exercise themselves habitually in estimating distances by the eye; in judging of the shape of grounds, of the relative bulk of bodies, and of the number of corps, whether in a state of motion or of rest.

"It must however be admitted, that these school exercises will not always lead to just conclusions, because the powers of men are very different, in the security of mere parade, and under the presence and pressure of actual danger. How often do we meet with men whose faculties, exercised in a place of personal safety, are quick, vigorous and decisive; who, in the presence of an enemy, sink into mere lifeless and ordinary machines; while others, who, on common occa-

sions, hold 'the noiseless tenor of their way' without exhibiting much of either the intrepid or the strenuous, require only the stimulus of combat, to rise not merely into heroes, but into sages.—Both descriptions require the extraordinary circumstance of a battle to develop their true character. On the one, its effect is sedative; on the other, tonic: the former it deprives of all the powers bestowed by nature or acquired by art—the latter it quickens into a vigor and activity, both physical and mental, which no smaller or less interesting event could either excite or maintain. It is in this last character that we find the true military stamina, and the full exercise of the coup d'œil; the faculty of seeing and of seizing, as if by intuition, all advantages, whether of ground or of manoeuvre; of correcting our own errors, and of punishing those of our enemy—in a word, it is here that we witness those more than mortal fires, which raise the soldier far above the men of all other professions, and which, in the universal sense of mankind, have even ranked him among the gods. To reach this eminence should be your constant aim—for this is the virtuous ambition of noble minds, (an ambition to excel) and totally different from the miserable aspirations after power and office, which swell the bosoms of little men—which a Cataline may feel as well as a Cæsar—and which, unfortunately, go far to characterize the times and the country in which we live."

RUPERT.

The Military Monitor.

NEW-YORK,

MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 1, 1813.

SUBSCRIBERS

To the MILITARY MONITOR, are respectfully informed, that, owing to the unavoidable absence of the Editor, for several weeks, the Nos. 1, 2, 3 & 4, have not been published as soon as was expected—They are now preparing for the press, and will be printed with all possible dispatch, and carefully forwarded to Subscribers. The absence of the Editor has also prevented the paper from being regularly forwarded by mail, in some cases, on the day that it ought; and the removal of the Printing-Office (as mentioned last week) delayed the last and present number. The Editor has now the pleasure of informing his patrons, that he has purchased printing materials, taken an office, and can assure them,

that hereafter, the **MILITARY MONITOR** will be regularly published on the day it ought, and immediately forwarded to distant Subscribers by mail, and delivered to his city friends the same day; and that no expence or trouble will be spared to render it worthy of the liberal patronage it has received.

"Amicus" will appear in our next.

"The public good our end."

The British squadron has retired from Sandy-Hook, and Admiral Warren has again raised the blockade of our harbor. "It is said" he has sailed for Bermuda, there to await the answer of our government to his pacific overtures! "*Let the credulous Jersey believe it!*"—for our parts, we have no doubt of the return of Admiral Warren *in due season*, reinforced, and capable as willing of doing us injuries which we shall long feel, and which our supineness merits, or at least is well calculated to invite.

Of the capability of the English to bring the war to our doors, and of the magnitude of their resources, we are sorry to observe a degree of scepticism, not only amongst the unreflecting many, (where popular delusions may be tolerated, at the same time that they are despised) but also amongst those who have been selected *to think for the people*.

We feel the imminence of our danger, and that it would be dereliction of duty not to proclaim the awfulness of our situation. With the examples of the Dardanelles and Copenhagen before us, we are affected with a just degree of alarm for the consequences of an attack by a hostile fleet, commanded by officers panting to wipe out the recent disgrace of the British flag in the extinction of the navy of America, and the destruction of her cities. Nor does it tend to lessen our fears, that the volunteer force for our defence is daily encreasing: patriotic men crowd our ranks—brave it is to be hoped, but undisciplined. What are artillerists, if they know not their duty? And we have good authority for believing, that a corps called artillery, has been quartered in one of the neighbouring garrisons *forwards of six months*, without ever having learned any of the duties of that powerful arm, or even being instructed in the discipline of infantry, except by their own officers!

The infantry corps in this city are in the same lamentable state, wholly dependant on their officers for instruction, who (generally) are as deficient of professional information as the men whom they command.

Attached to no party but the people, feeling no anxiety for popularity at the expence of truth, and accustomed to connect cause and effect, we have no hesitation in proclaiming aloud, that a total change of measures is necessary, to give effect to the mass of matter collected (we will not say organized) for the defence of the city and harbor of New-York.

Extracts.

Salem, Jan. 9.

IMPRESSMENT.

The following deposition of Mr. ISAAC CLARK, of this town, who had been torn from his family and country, and for *three years* compelled to serve on board His Britannic Majesty's ships of war, is entitled to an attentive perusal. Those Americans who can read this narrative without the strongest emotions of indignation and wrath towards the insolent and haughty oppressors of our brave and honest mariners, and commiseration for their sufferings, or who can attempt to justify and palliate the atrocious conduct of our man-stealing enemies, can be fit only for slaves to the corrupt Court of St. James, and had better take refuge with their favorite "*Bulwark*"; they are unworthy to breathe the pure air of Liberty.

This narrative affords a most striking and affecting view of the sufferings which not only our townsman, Mr. CLARK, but *thousands* of American seamen have endured, and all which have been *liable* to endure, by this infernal practice of impressment on the high seas from our vessels. But the day of retribution will come, and it ought to be the determination of every patriotic American, to compel the enemy to abandon this most insufferable and degrading practice, or in the language of the Hon. Mr. MASON, "*to nail our colors to the mast, and sink in the effort.*"

"I, ISAAC CLARK, of Salem, in the county of Essex, and commonwealth of Massachusetts, on solemn oath declare, that I was born in the town of Randolph, in the county of Norfolk; have sailed out of Salem aforesaid about seven years; that on the fourteenth day of June, eighteen hundred and nine, I was IMPRESSED, and forcibly taken from the ship *Jane*, of Norfolk, by the sailing master (his name was Carr) of His Majesty's ship *Porcupine*, Robert Elliot, commander. I had a Protection from the Custom-House in Salem, which I showed to captain Elliot; he *swore I was an Englishman*, TORE MY PROTECTION TO PIECES BEFORE MY EYES, and threw it overboard, and ordered me to go to work—I told him I did not belong to his flag, and would not work under it. He then ordered *my legs put in irons*, and the next morning ordered the master at arms to take me on deck, and give me TWO DOZEN LASHES; after receiving them he ordered him to keep me in irons, and give me one biscuit and a pint of water for twenty-four hours.—After keeping me in this situation one week, I was brought on deck, and asked by captain Elliot if I would go to my duty—on my refusing, he ordered me to strip, tied me up a second time, and gave me TWO DOZEN MORE, and kept me on the same allowance another week—then ordered me on deck again, and asked if I would go to work; I still persisted that I was an American, and that he had no right to command my service, and I would do no work on board his ship—He told me he would punish me

until I was willing to work; and then gave me the THIRD TWO DOZEN LASHES, ordered a very heavy chain put round my neck, (such as they used to sling the lower yard) fastened to a bolt in the deck, and that no person except the master at arms, should speak to me, or give me any thing to eat or drink, but my one biscuit and a pint of water for twenty-four hours, until I would go to work. I was kept in this situation NINE WEEKS, when being exhausted with hunger and thirst, I was obliged to yield. After being on board the ship more than two years and a half, and being wounded in an action with a French frigate, I was sent to the hospital—when partially recovered, I was sent on board the *pregnable*, a 98 gun ship. My wound grew worse, I was returned to the hospital, when the American Consul received a copy of my protection from Salem, and procured my discharge the twenty-ninth day of April last. There were seven impressed Americans on board the *Porcupine*, three of whom had entered.

ISAAC CLARK

OF SPAIN.

Extract from the 5th dispatch of the General Chief, Count Caffarelli, to the Minister of War, dated Burgos, Nov. 8, 1812.

My Lord—Since the siege of Burgos, the army retired on the great road leading to Valladolid. There took place, on the 23d October, an engagement between the cavalry of the Army of the North, united to the army of Portugal, and all the English cavalry, when the latter was completely beaten. Since which the enemy continued retreating and made a feeble attempt to defend the bridge of Torquenada.—He afterwards placed himself behind the *Campana*, *lanca*, and the *Pisneiga*, taking care of the bridges of Tarriego, Villamuriel, and St. *...*

Near the bridge of Villamuriel, on the side of the river, which our troops had crossed, an engagement took place in which the enemy lost 900 men. A detachment of light cavalry of the army of the north, commanded by M. *...* marched to the bridge, fell upon the rear of a large convoy, took 400 prisoners and 100 *...* of biscuit, and a great quantity of baggage. The next day the enemy evacuated Duenna, took a position between Caberson and Vallabona where they blew up the bridge. As they took this position to afford them better means of retreat, they also blew up the bridge of Caberson and that of Simaneas, and afterwards withdrew by Puente Duera, where they also destroyed the bridge. The bridges of Tordesillas, Torre, and Tore, were equally destroyed—that of *...* mora will probably share the same fate. These events occurred between the 23d and 29th ult.

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